

Message Text

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DEPT PASS SECRETARY'S PARTY SOONEST AND OTHER POSTS AS
DESIRED.

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)

SUBJECT: BRIEFING OF PRESIDENT PARK ON SECRETARY'S PEKING VISIT.

REF: SECTO 09046

SUMMARY: ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE BRIEFED
PRESIDENT PARK AUGUST 27 ON SECRETARY'S VISIT TO PEKING,
FOCUSING ON DISUCSSIONS WITH PRC REGARDING KOREA. PARK
VERY APPRECIATIVE OF BRIEFING AND CONCLUDED THERE NO RPT
NO CHANGE IN PRC POSITION ON KOREA. END SUMMARY.

1. ON AUGUST 27 ASST SEC HOLBROOKE ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR
MET FOR ONE HOUR WITH PRESIDENT PARK TO BRIEF ON SECRETARY'S
VISIT. PRIMIN CHOE KYU-HA, FONMIN PARK TONG-JIN, PRESIDENTIAL
SECRETARY GENERAL KIM CHONG-YUM, AND PRESIDENTIAL PROTOCOL
SETRETARY AND INTERPRETER CHOI KWANG-SOO WERE ALSO PRESENT.

2. HOLBROOKE OPENED DISUCSSION WITH GENERAL DESCRIPTION
OF SECRETARY'S TALKS IN PEKING DRAWN LARGELY FROM REFTEL.
HE PROVIDED SOME ADDITIONAL ATMOSPHERICS AND EMPHASIZED
EXPLORATORY NATURE OF TALKS. HOLBROOKE THEN BRIEFED PARK
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ON KOREAN DISCUSSIONS READING VERBATIM EXTRACTS FROM
DISCUSSIONS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER HUANG HUA ON TUESDAY AND
WEDNESDAY MORNINGS AND FROM MEETING WITH VICE PREMIER
TENG HSIAO-PING WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

3. PRESIDENT PARK COMMENTED THAT HE FOUND NOTHING SPECIFIC
OR DIFFERENT FROM PREVIOUS BRIEFINGS ON PRC POSITION

REGARDING KOREA. HE ASKED WHETHER THERE WAS ANY INDICATION OF CHANGE IN PRC VIEW ON KOREA IN DISCUSSIONS OUTSIDE OFFICIAL TALKS. HOLBROOKE SAID THERE WAS NO SUCH INDICATION AND AGREED THAT THERE APPARENTLY NO CHANGE IN PRC OFFICIAL POSITION ON KOREA.

4. PARK COMMENTED THAT IN PAST U.S. TALKS WITH PRC ASSUMPTION HAD BEEN THAT THERE IS DIFFERENCE BETWEEN WHAT PRC LEADERS SAID OFFICIALLY AND WHAT THEY REALLY FEEL AND THINK WITH RESPECT TO KOREA. HE ASKED WHETHER WE ABLE TO FATHOM THEIR REAL THOUGHTS SINCE ROK HAD NO MEANS TO DO SO. WITHOUT ANY INDICATION OF REAL PRC VIEWS, ROKG MUST TAKE CHINESE STATEMENTS AT FACE VALUE AND PREPARE ON THIS BASIS.

5. HOLBROOKE AGREED THAT OFFICIAL STATEMENTS WERE NOT FULL STORY OF PRC VIEWS ON KOREA. ALTHOUGH WE LACK FIRM EVIDENTS OF TRUE VIEWS, HE SHARES SPECULATION OF MANY OBSERVERS THAT PRC, WHILE GIVING LIP SERVICE TO SUPPORTING NORTH KOREA, REALLY SEEKS NO CHANGE IN CURRENT SITUATION.

6. IN CLOSING DISCUSSION, HOLBROOKE POINTED OUT THAT KOREAN DISCUSSIONS WITH PRC HAD FULFILLED PROMISE MADE BY HABIB TO PARK OF OUR INTENTION TO REAFFIRM DIRECTLY TO PRC OUR COMMITMENT ON KOREA AND THIS WAS KEY POINT IN DISCUSSIONS, WHICH SECRETARY MADE VERY
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FORECEFULLY AND CLEARLY TO CHINESE. HOLBROOKE ALSO NOTED THAT THIS WAS JUST BEGINNING OF CARTER ADMINISTRATION DISCUSSIONS WITH CHINESE.

7. PARK EXPRESSED HIS GREAT APPRECIATION FOR BRIEFING AND HOLBROOKE'S VISIT TO SEOUL FOR THIS PURPOSE. HE ASKED HOLBROOKE TO SEND HIS PERSONAL GREETINGS TO PRESIDENT CARTER AND SECRETARY VANCE.
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